

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS



For Week Ending January 31, 1997

Issue: 02-97

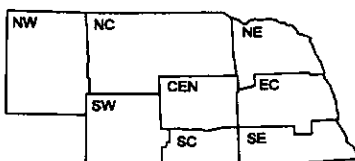
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National Agricultural Statistics Service
U S Department of Agriculture
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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admin
National Weather Service



Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l Statistics
Cooperative Extension Service
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WEATHER

Temperatures for the week ranged from one extreme of unseasonably warm to below zero temperatures over the State. Average temperatures varied from five degrees above normals in the Panhandle to four degrees below normals in the north central portion. Precipitation across the State ranged from traces to two tenths of an inch.

GENERAL

Temperatures for January averaged two degrees below normal with moisture in the forms of rain and snow amounting to near half an inch of precipitation in the northern third of the State, according the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. More moisture was needed in the southwest where less than .10 inch of precipitation was recorded for the month. Most of the farm stored grain was reported in good condition. Producer activities during January included delivering grain, tax and financial planning, attending meetings, livestock care, equipment repair and maintenance, and routine chores.

CROPS

Winter wheat condition rated 4% poor, 47% fair, 48% good, and 1% excellent. The lack of snow cover and sub-zero weather conditions during January were a source of concern for the winter wheat crop.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Sub-zero temperatures and snow during the month of January stressed cattle and sheep resulting in limited weight gains and many hours devoted to livestock care. Reports in the north and east indicated that amounts of hay fed was higher than normal for January. Cattle losses were reported in the 2-4% range in a few northern counties, while elsewhere, losses were minimal. Due to the open winter, cattle continued to actively glean corn stalks. Calving and lambing activities have begun across the State with calving about 4% complete. Cattle condition rated 2% poor, 21% fair, 70% good, and 7% excellent.

WINTER REPORTING AS OF FEBRUARY 2, 1997	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST REPORT	LAST YEAR
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE			
	PERCENT										
% Cows Calved	9	2	3	4	5	5	7	3	4	n/a	6
SUPPLIES OF FEED GRAINS AND HAY AND FORAGE AS OF JANUARY 31, 1997											
Feed Grains - Very Short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
(Percent) - Short	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	7
- Adequate	97	92	90	99	95	75	70	98	91	84	89
- Surplus	0	8	9	1	5	25	30	0	8	15	3
Hay and Forage - Very Short	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	1
(Percent) - Short	7	4	20	3	21	0	6	2	10	10	9
- Adequate	90	91	77	88	74	86	94	96	85	86	87
- Surplus	3	5	2	9	3	14	0	2	4	4	3

n/a = not available

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PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - SEPTEMBER 28, 1997								
	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week . . .	61	97	69	35	78	.54	61	77
Total since April 1 .	15 47	18 49	21 13	22 20	25 83	20 20	28 97	23 45
Normal since April 1	13 11	16 59	18 98	18 44	21 09	15.20	18 55	21 80
Total as % of normal . .	118%	111%	111%	120%	122%	133%	156%	108%

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1997						
Station		Temperature			Precipitation	
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches
		Max	Min			
NW	Chadron	55	-10	25	---	11
	Scottsbluff	65	1	32	+5	.01
	Sidney	64	4	35	---	T
NC	Valentine	52	-21	17	-4	13
NE	Norfolk	59	-13	19	-1	.02
	Sioux City	46	-10	16	-3	.01
CEN	Grand Island	62	-10	22	-1	10
	Ord	59	-14	22	---	0
EC	Lincoln	60	-14	20	-2	.18
	Omaha	56	-12	19	-3	12
SW	Imperial	67	4	34	---	0
	North Platte	64	-8	27	+4	T